

Collecting signatures on petition for candidate's application for a place on ballot

HB 1274 by Geren (Nelson)

DIGEST:	HB 1274 would have removed the requirement that people gathering signatures on petitions to place candidates on a ballot point out and read to each signer statements on the petition that affect the signer.
GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO:	"House Bill No. 1274 would repeal the requirement that persons gathering signatures on petitions to place candidates on the ballot inform the signer of provisions which affect the signer. However, there are some very specific consequences to signing a candidate's petition, and it therefore is in the public interest to make sure that the public understands what they are signing. For example, a voter who signs a petition for one party's candidate for public office becomes ineligible to vote in any other party's primary. This is a serious ramification which restricts the voter's right to choose the primary in which he or she wishes to participate, and it is important that the voter have that information when deciding whether to sign the petition."
RESPONSE:	Neither Rep. Charlie Geren, author of HB 1274, nor Sen. Jane Nelson, the Senate sponsor, had a comment on the veto.
NOTES:	HB 1274 passed the House on the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar and was not analyzed in a <i>Daily Floor Report</i> .